Eric Vander Velde 1059 New York Drive Altadena CA 91001

Sep 4th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I am consumer and my wife is a small business owner who supports broadband competition. Please do not let AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom take away access to critical unbundled network elements. My current internet service provider (Sonic) relies on unbundled elements, the critical last-mile of copper and inter-city fiber that allows them to expand there fiber deployment, and compete with the AT&Ts of the world. Without access to this infrastructure, Sonic is at risk of losing me and access to a huge customer base. This will no doubt lead to higher rates, less fiber deployment, and even less options for there loyal customers. Competition is the backbone of democracy and I do not want to be stuck with just one or two ISPs. Nor do I want prices to skyrocket just for the sake of making shareholder dividends for big corporations like AT&T. Broadband and telephone is very important to my household and Sonic provides a top notch, grass roots service. Sonic needs continued access to copper as a bridge to fiber so that we can connect its customers to the fastest, most affordable internet available. Please do not let AT&T take away Sonic's access to these critical network elements.

Thank you.

Eric Vander Velde